U.S. Election Assistance Commission

2020 Elections Disability, Accessibility, and Security Forum

Draft Agenda as of February 4, 2020

Date: February 20, 2020 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Location: The Westin Georgetown 2350 M St. NW, Washington, DC

9:00 a.m.

Doors open and check-in

9:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

Opening remarks

Chair of the EAC will set the stage for the summit and announce forum workshop session topics to include protecting voting rights for people with disabilities and securing elections.

• Christy McCormick, EAC Chairwoman

9:40 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

Election official perspectives on accessibility and security, while keeping the promise of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)

Former Executive Director of the Election Center will discuss HAVA's landmark rights for voters with disabilities and the upward trend of disability in an aging population.

• Doug Lewis, former Executive Director, Election Center

9:50 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Workshop Introduction

The forum moderator will announce guidelines and provide discussion perspectives to foster a collaborative discourse amongst the diverse group of participants.

 Doug Chapin, Moderator, Director of the Certificate in Election Administration program, University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Moderated Discussion I: Cutting-Edge Voting Technology for Voters with Disabilities

This workshop session will focus on the utilization of new voting technology to empower a private and independent vote across the U.S. The session will also discuss perspectives on new voting technology given growing election security needs.

- Opened and closed by EAC Commissioner Hicks.
- Introductory comments from election officials, voters with disabilities, leading advocates for voters with disabilities, and security experts.
- Discussion with participants, EAC Commissioners, and members of the public.

11:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.

Break (coffee available)

11:20 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.

Keynote on disability, accessibility and security. Speaker to be determined

A leader in the security community will offer perspectives.

11:40 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.

Moderated Discussion II: Ballot-Marking Devices and Accessibility

This workshop session will foster discussion amongst election officials, leading advocates for voters with disabilities, and security experts on ballot-marking devices. Given the extensive use of BMDs across the nation, participants will discuss differing perspectives on this equipment and potential areas of agreement.

- Opened and closed by EAC Commissioner Hovland.
- Introductory comments from election officials, voters with disabilities, leading advocates for voters with disabilities, and security experts.
- Discussion with participants, EAC Commissioners, and members of the public.

12:40 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Lunch (on your own)

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Moderated Session III: Polling Place Access and Vote-by-Mail

This workshop session will focus on accessible vote-by-mail ballots and polling places, given the heightened election security environment.

- Opened and closed by EAC Commissioner McCormick.
- Introductory comments from election officials, voters with disabilities, leading advocates for voters with disabilities, and security experts.
- Discussion with participants, EAC Commissioners, and members of the public.

3:00 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.

Break

3:20 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.

Moderator-led Session on Potential Deliverables for Disability, Accessibility, and Security

This closing workshop session will focus on next steps and potential best practices to assist election officials serving voters with disabilities amidst growing security needs.

- Opened and closed by EAC Commissioner Palmer.
- Introductory comments from election officials, voters with disabilities, leading advocates for voters with disabilities, and security experts.
- Discussion with participants, EAC commissioners, and members of the public.

4:20 p.m.

Summarizing Comments by EAC Commissioners

EAC commissioners will summarize workshop discussions and suggest next steps.

• EAC Commissioners

4:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

• Mona Harrington, Acting Executive Director, EAC